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PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KAZUMA SATO ET AL.

Application No.: 09/781,162

Filed: February 13, 2001

For: EXPENDABLE MANAGEMENT  
METHOD AND SYSTEM

Examiner: M. Gart

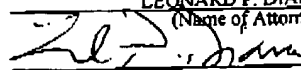
Group Art Unit: 3625

March 22, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450RESPONSE TO TELEPHONIC RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the telephonic restriction requirement made on March 18,  
2004, Applicants hereby elect, provisionally, to proceed initially with prosecution of Group  
I (Claims 1-24).

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile  
to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 onMarch 22, 2004.  
(Date of Transmission)LEONARD P. DIANA (Reg. No. 29,296)  
(Name of Attorney for Applicants)

Signature

March 22, 2004  
Date of Signature

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 29,286

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200  
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